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Christopher Wray Director, Federal Bureau of Investigations Department of Justice 935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Kristen Clarke Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Director Wray and Assistant Attorney General Clarke,

I write to you regarding extremely disturbing reports in the *Miami Herald* of distribution of anti-Semitic flyers this week, targeting Disney World executives and lawmakers, and ask for an immediate investigation.¹

The *Herald* reports that on Tuesday, June 28th, dozens of Miami and Coral Gables homeowners awoke to plastic bags filled with corn kernels. The corn kernels served as weights to hold down paper pictures of six Disney World executives with blue Stars of David stamped on their foreheads and the word "Jewish" in capital letters under their names. The *Herald* reported that the pamphlets said, "Every single aspect of Disney's child grooming is Jewish" and "Protect your children."

Additionally, anti-Semitic flyers focusing on gun control and immigration were unloaded on other homeowners' lawns, with such hateful messages as "Every single aspect of mass immigration is Jewish." A similar message regarding gun control was printed next to pictures of lawnakers. According to the *Herald* and *WPBF 25 News*, these fliers were also found in Orlando, Fort Pierce, Jacksonville, Boca Raton, and Vero Beach. Flyers at the latter two locations included anti-Semitic messages about media control and COVID-19.²

While the *Herald* reports that local law enforcement is looking into the current anti-Semitic attacks, and Miami-based FBI public affairs officer James Marshall indicated the FBI is aware of the pamphlets, the apparent widespread coordination warrants a fulsome national investigation. The *Herald* reported that California, Colorado and Texas had similar distribution of hate materials, and the publication of an anti-Semitic website address was found on materials

¹ https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/miami-dade/coral-gables/article262966228.html

² https://www.wpbf.com/article/dozens-anti-semitic-flyers-thrown-boca-raton-neighborhood/40450546#

throughout these states. Reportedly, the FBI is investigating a January incident where anti-Semitic flyers were distributed in South Florida and across the country.³

These blatant anti-Semitic acts are dreadful, alarming, and warrant an immediate and thorough investigation. According to the Anti-Defamation League, anti-Semitic incidents were up 34 percent in 2021 nationwide – **including an over 50 percent increase in Florida!** We know from the horrors of the Holocaust that anti-Semitism and bigotry can quickly escalate from hateful ideas and rhetoric to violence, systematic discrimination and even genocide. We must stop anti-Semitism and hate in its tracks.

Thank you for your attention to this serious matter.

Charlie Crist (FL-13)

MEMBER OF CONGRESS

³ https://www.local10.com/news/local/2022/06/29/more-antisemitic-flyers-found-throughout-south-florida/